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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

I-80 "Across the Top" Project Will Ease Traffic Congestion and Reduce Air Pollution

SACRAMENTO – Today, Caltrans broke ground on the Interstate 80 "Across the Top" project that will ease traffic congestion, reduce air pollution and lessen the travel time during peak commute hours on Interstate 80. The

\$133.3 million project received \$53.5 million of its funding from Proposition 1B, the 2006 voter-approved transportation bond, and will create or sustain hundreds of jobs.

Caltrans estimates this project will improve mobility in the Sacramento region by eliminating more than four million hours of delays that 140,000 average daily drivers accumulate annually.

"Projects like these not only reduce traffic congestion and air pollution, they help put construction contractors back to work during these tough economic times," said Acting Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty.

When complete, this project will construct about 10 miles of bus and carpool lanes in both directions, repave the highway from West El Camino Avenue to Watt Avenue, and add approximately one mile of new auxiliary lanes from West El Camino Avenue to the Interstate 80/Interstate 5 interchange.

Bay Cities Inc. of Concord and C.C. Myers Inc. of Rancho Cordova are the primary contractors for this project. The anticipated completion date is fall 2014. Most of the construction will take place at night to minimize delays for the traveling public. Caltrans urges motorists to use caution in this area and to "Slow for the Cone Zone."

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